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## Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary

**Thesaurus**

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offset[1,noun]  
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Main Entry: **1off-set** ▾

Pronunciation: 'of-''set

Function: *noun*

1 **a** *archaic* : **OUTSET, START** **b** : **CESSATION**

2 **a** (1) : a short prostrate lateral shoot arising from the base of a plant (2) : a small bulb arising from the base of another bulb **b** : a lateral or collateral branch (as of a family or race) : **OFFSHOOT** **c** : a spur from a range of hills

3 **a** : a horizontal ledge on the face of a wall formed by a diminution of its thickness above **b** : **DISPLACEMENT** **c** : an abrupt change in the dimension or profile of an object or the part set off by such change

4 : something that sets off to advantage or embellishes something else : **FOIL**

5 : an abrupt bend in an object by which one part is turned aside out of line

6 : something that serves to counterbalance or to compensate for something else; *especially* : either of two balancing ledger items

7 **a** : unintentional transfer of ink (as from a freshly printed sheet) **b** : a printing process in which an inked impression from a plate is first made on a rubber-blanketed cylinder and then transferred to the paper being printed

- **offset adjective or adverb**

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